

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 912**  
**OFFERED BY MR. ROHRABACHER**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Charles ‘Pete’ Conrad  
3 Astronomy Awards Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5       For the purposes of this Act—

6           (1) the term “Administrator” means the Ad-  
7 ministrator of the National Aeronautics and Space  
8 Administration;

9           (2) the term “amateur astronomer” means an  
10 individual whose employer does not provide any  
11 funding, payment, or compensation to the individual  
12 for the observation of asteroids and other celestial  
13 bodies, and does not include any individual employed  
14 as a professional astronomer;

15           (3) the term “Minor Planet Center” means the  
16 Minor Planet Center of the Smithsonian Astro-  
17 physical Observatory;



1 (4) the term “near-Earth asteroid” means an  
2 asteroid with a perihelion distance of less than 1.3  
3 Astronomical Units from the Sun; and

4 (5) the term “Program” means the Charles  
5 “Pete” Conrad Astronomy Awards Program estab-  
6 lished under section 3.

7 **SEC. 3. PETE CONRAD ASTRONOMY AWARD PROGRAM.**

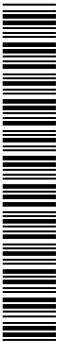
8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish  
9 the Charles “Pete” Conrad Astronomy Awards Program.

10 (b) AWARDS.—The Administrator shall make awards  
11 under the Program based on the recommendations of the  
12 Minor Planet Center.

13 (c) AWARD CATEGORIES.—The Administrator shall  
14 make one annual award, unless there are no eligible dis-  
15 coveries or contributions, for each of the following cat-  
16 egories:

17 (1) The amateur astronomer or group of ama-  
18 teur astronomers who in the preceding calendar year  
19 discovered the intrinsically brightest near-Earth as-  
20 teroid among the near-Earth asteroids that were dis-  
21 covered during that year by amateur astronomers or  
22 groups of amateur astronomers.

23 (2) The amateur astronomer or group of ama-  
24 teur astronomers who made the greatest contribu-  
25 tion to the Minor Planet Center’s mission of cata-



1        logging near-Earth asteroids during the preceding  
2        year.

3        (d) AWARD AMOUNT.—An award under the Program  
4        shall be in the amount of \$3,000.

5        (e) GUIDELINES.—(1) No individual who is not a cit-  
6        izen or permanent resident of the United States at the  
7        time of his discovery or contribution may receive an award  
8        under this Act.

9        (2) The decisions of the Administrator in making  
10       awards under this Act are final.

11       (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—From  
12       sums otherwise authorized to be appropriated, there are  
13       authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-  
14       essary to carry out this Act.

